

# Hull Gaming

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House Ways and Means Committee for study).

The energy crisis could have the effect of convincing at least Boston politicians to keep convention centers assessable to Boston — one of the biggest tourist attractions in the country.

Does Hull still want gaming? A resolution calling for casino gambling was turned down by a sparsely-attended town meeting in Hull this year, but it is felt by many Hull residents that the 1977 2-1 mandate in favor still represents the will of the electorate.

Chain letter "gambling" and lotteries can be played more or less privately. Those who wish to gamble by these methods can do so via a local merchant, or with the aid of a stamp. Chain letters and lotteries don't cause traffic jams.

Dog racing, horse racing, car racing and casinos require that large edifices be built. Invariably traffic congestion occurs, and sometimes small unsuspecting neighborhoods get squeezed in the process.

The bill which is presently on its way to the House Ways and Means Committee is still only a paper tiger. But with an amendment or two and a local option clause, it could develop some sharp teeth. As one town official readily admitted: "These are the kinds of things that do sneak up on you."

If a casino were to be built in Hull, Eugene Price feels there might at first be a "flurry" of interest from residents in the area, but feels that after the newness of a casino wore off the permanent casino clientele would be from urban areas.

"There's not only the aspect of gambling to consider... there's the element which gravitates to places like that," Price said.

William Morgan feels controls would be imperative. While he feels there might be some fast-paced community

## Notable Quotes

□ Eugene K. Price, realtor — "A going casino in Hull wouldn't depress me. I don't feel there would be any long-term effects."

□ William Morgan, self-employed businessman — "If it were controlled I wouldn't be against it. Over the years Paragon Park has been a tourist attraction — there's never been any overflow to Cohasset."

□ Rocco Laugelle, selectman — "I don't feel the town of Cohasset would care for this sort of thing. Immediately, we'd have 3A problems. I feel 90 percent (of the gamblers) would use the expressway."

□ Police Officer Paul Laugelle — "I don't feel there would be any more effect on traffic than there is with Paragon Park."

□ Paul Cogill — "I'd vote against it because I'm not a gambler."

□ Donna Cogill — "I'm not for it or against it; but if I had to vote on the question I'd probably vote against it."

□ Pat Facey, chairman of the planning board — "We've never considered it. I suspect it would have implications, but it's always seemed like such a nebulous thing. Obviously it's something to keep our eyes on."

□ Henry Ainslie, selectman — "Personally I can't see that it would adversely effect Cohasset. I believe if Hull wants it, it should have it."

Martha Gjesterby, school committeewoman — "It would change the whole area, I wouldn't want it in Massachusetts."

□ Lester Hiltz — "I don't think there would be that much effect on Cohasset — it would effect Hingham more."

□ Mary G. Keating — "I really don't think it will ever take place."

□ Warren Pratt, chairman, board of assessors — "I'm against casinos in Massachusetts. I don't want to see any more gambling than the present lotteries."

□ Jean B. Cotton, advisory committee — "We've never discussed it."

growth in Hull, he said, Hingham and Cohasset could contain any rush for multi-family housing. Morgan added that the town might realize some beneficial "spin-offs" from a Hull casino, such as entertainment and dining trade.

Undesirable fringe industries such as loan companies and prostitution are what Martha Gjesterby, school committeewoman, foresees with a Hull casino. "It would have to have an effect on Cohasset. Las Vegas is a special situation — it's isolated. A Hull casino would effect the whole South

Shore."

Ms. Gjesterby feels that if Hull has major problems with its tax base, it should work harder at attracting light industry with tax incentives.

While he feels the great middle class would treat a casino as an entertainment vehicle, Lester Hiltz feels that poor who could not afford it would be hurt, while the rich would discover a way to beat the system.

Although most of those interviewed did not condemn outright the possibility of a casino in the area, no one really spoke in glowing terms of such an industry.

## Storm

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Park would present a problem to youngsters and animals that inadvertently walked through the oiled area. That land, he continued, is a natural drainage area, and to add an

unnatural substance there would act as a contaminant. He suggested continued watering of the ring, despite Davenport's protestations that the ring dries too quickly for watering to be of any longlasting value.

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